



State Library of Massachusetts - Special Collections Department

# Ms. Coll. 100

## David B. Cohen Papers, 1984-1997: Guide

### COLLECTION SUMMARY

**Creator:** Cohen, David B., 1947-.

**Call Number:** Ms. Coll. 100

**Extent:** 3 boxes (2.5 linear feet)

**Preferred Citation Style:** *Folder Title, Box Number #.* David B. Cohen Papers. State Library of Massachusetts Special Collections.

**About This Finding Aid:** Description based on DACS.

**Provenance:** Gift of David B. Cohen, 1997.

**Processed by:** Finding aid prepared by Jessica Steytler, 1998; updated by Abigail Cramer, August, 2012.

**Abstract:** This collection documents Cohen's involvement with water conservation and protection during his terms as Massachusetts Representative from the 11<sup>th</sup> Middlesex district from 1979 to 1997.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT

The materials in this collection date from 1984 to 1996 and document Cohen's involvement in Massachusetts water conservation and protection. This collection includes amendment revisions, press clippings, correspondence, and materials documenting issues that support or relate to water protection and conservation.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

David B. Cohen, from Newton, Massachusetts, was born September 2, 1947. He graduated Newton High School in 1965, received a B.A. from Harvard in 1970, and received a J.D. from Boston University Law School in 1973. Cohen began his first term in the House of Representatives in the Democratic Party in 1979 and served until 1997 for the 11th Middlesex district. He served on a number of committees during his ten terms, including Election Laws, Public Service, Bills in the Third Reading (Chair), Special Commission on Early Childhood Programs (Chair), Ways and Means, Counties, and Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The core of Cohen's priorities were liberal policies such as available and affordable child care, improved care for the elderly, civil rights, mental health, women's issues and above all, watershed and environmental protection. Cohen was most active with two pieces of legislation: the Watershed Protection Act, which was dubbed the Cohen Bill (passed in 1992), and the Massachusetts River Protection Act (passed in 1996). Cohen served as Mayor of Newton from 1997 to 2008.

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

### ***Arrangement***

The collection is arranged into three series as follows:

*Series I. Legislative Files, 1987-1996*

*Series II. Press, Correspondence, and Speeches, 1987-1996*

*Series III. Subject Files, 1984-1997*

### ***Conditions Governing Access***

This collection is open for research during the Special Collections Department's regular hours.

### ***Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use***

Copyright restrictions may apply. Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with Special Collections staff.

### ***Languages and Scripts***

The materials are entirely in English.

### ***Custodial History***

The materials in this collection came directly to the Special Collections Department from Cohen's office. Special Collections staff gathered the materials directly from his filing cabinets.

### ***Immediate Source of Acquisition***

Gift of David B. Cohen, 1997.

### ***Series Description and Container List***

#### **Series I: Legislative Files, 1987-1996**

##### ***Scope and Content***

This series includes legislative subjects of interest to Cohen.

##### ***Arrangement***

The materials in this series are arranged chronologically.

<b>Box #</b>	<b>Folder #</b>	<b>Folder Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	1	Water Conservation	1980s
1	2	Watershed: Ipsal, Palmer and Dodge	1987-1992
1	3	Watershed Land Acquisition Amendment	1987
1	4	Senate Lobbying	1988
1	5	Water: Committee and Background Information	1988
1	6	Water Bill: McKenna and Constantino Amendments	1988
1	7	Water Bill: Suggested Amendments	1988-1989
1	8	H.5961, H.6106; H.5979, H.6122, H.1380, and H.5604	1988-1990
1	9	Amick Amendments	1989
1	10	Bartletts Water Issue: Cambridge Issues	1989
1	11	Bonding Amendment (H. 1928)	1989
1	12	Committee Hearing Test (H.1928)	1989
1	13	Committee Hearing: Water Preservation	1989
1	14	House Journal (6979-6122)	1989

1	15	Sewer Bond (H.5500)	1989
1	16	Water Preservation: Legislation and Support Information	1989
1	17	Watershed Bill Petition	1989
1	18	Wetmore Bill (S.1161)	1989
1	19	Massachusetts River Protection Act	1992
1	20	Watershed Protection Act: Cohen Bill	1992-1996
1	21	Massachusetts River Protection Act	1993
1	22	Massachusetts River Protection Act: Legislation	1993
1	23	Massachusetts River Protection Act: Redrafts	1994-1996
1	24	Cranberry Bogs (H.6292)	1996
1	25	Massachusetts River Protection Act- Approach	1996
1	26	Rivers Bill Drafts: Amendments #1	1996
1	27	Rivers Bill Drafts: Amendments #2	1996
1	28	Rivers Bill Drafts: Contributions from Peter J. Larkin	1996
1	29	Rivers Bill Final Copy	1996
1	30	Redrafts Water Purity (H.5659)	undated
1	31	Senators Served by Metropolitan District Commission	undated

## **Series II: Press, Correspondence, and Speeches, 1987-1996**

### ***Scope and Content***

This series includes press coverage of Cohen, press coverage of issues important to Cohen, correspondence, and Cohen's writings (including news releases and speeches) about water protection and conservation.

### ***Arrangement***

The materials in this series are arranged by type: press coverage, correspondence, and writings.

<b>Box #</b>	<b>Folder #</b>	<b>Folder Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	32	Cohen Watershed Bill Press	1987-1991
1	33	Cohen Watershed Bill Press	1992

1	34	Rivers Press	1993-1996
1	35	Water Press	1987-1990
1	36	Cohen Letter to Legislators and Letter to House	1988
1	37	Cohen Water Writing: Newspaper Release Letters and Speeches	1989
1	38	Letters from Watershed Legislators	1988
1	39	Water Letters	1988
1	40	Watershed Protection Bill and Information	1992-1993

### **Series III: Subject Files, 1984-1997**

#### ***Scope and Content***

This series includes Cohen's subject files on issues of importance to him, including the communities he served, environmental protection of bodies of water, drinking water information, and watershed protection.

#### ***Arrangement***

The materials in this series are arranged alphabetically by topic.

<b>Box #</b>	<b>Folder #</b>	<b>Folder Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	42	Acid Rain (Metropolitan District Commission Water Issues)	1988
1	43	Asphalt Plant: Templeton, Massachusetts	1990
1	44	Audubon Watershed Paper	1989
1	45	Build Out: Holden and Sterling	1988
1	46	Business Climate	1991-1994
1	47	Cape Cod Land-taking Decision	1996
2	48	Communities A-J	undated
2	49	Communities H-M	undated
2	50	Communities N-Z	undated
2	51	Department of Environmental Protection Permitting #1 With California Material	1992-1994

2	52	Department of Environmental Protection Permitting #2	1992-1994
2	53	Drinking Water Info- Violation Facts	1992
2	54	Environmental Report from Mass Executive Office of Environmental Affairs	1990
2	55	Home Builders	1988
2	56	Letters from Environmental Advocates on Behalf of Rivers	1993-1996
2	57	Lopes v. Peabody	1993-1995
2	58	Lucas: Legal	1992
2	59	Massachusetts River Protection Act	1995
2	60	Massachusetts River Protection Act: Letters, Memorandums and Testimonies	1993
2	61	Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act Municipality Facts	1992-1993
2	62	Massachusetts Rivers Protection: Support and Correspondence	undated
2	63	Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA)	1990
2	64	Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA): Share and Bonding	1989
2	65	Natural Resources Defense Council: Drinking Water Quality	1995
2	66	Newton Environmental Guide	1990
2	67	Protection Initiative Comparison by Rob Mitchell: H.6106	1989
2	68	Realtors	1989
2	69	Rivers Bill Opponents	1992-1996
2	70	Rivers Conference Report	1996

2	71	Rivers Implementation	1993, 1996-1997
2	72	Rivers Information from Environment Groups	1993-1996
2	73	Rivers Regulations	1991, 1997
2	74	Rivers Regulations: Final	1997
2	75	Safe Drinking Water Act: Mass Primacy	1986
2	76	State Water Quality/Contamination	1980s
2	77	Suit to Block I-90 (Legal)	1990
2	78	Takings: Daddario v. Cape Cod Commission	1995
2	79	Title V Regulation: (Department of Environmental Protection)	1993
2	80	Water Analysis and Recommendation- Metropolitan Boston by Rob Mitchell	1987
2	81	Water Quality: Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) Water Issues	1988
3	82	Water Regulations (Dept. of Environmental Protection)	1984
3	83	Water Resource Atlases (Maps)	undated
3	84	Water Taste and Odor: Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) Water Issues	1988
3	85	Watershed Background	1989-1992
3	86	Watershed Protection Plan	1991